

Message Text

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70

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NEA-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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R 221650Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 978

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E.9. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, JA MO

SUBJ: JAPANESE SPECIAL ENVOY TO MIDDLE EAST

REF: STATE 7385

1. VISIT TO MOROCCO JAN. 16-19 BY JAPANESE DELEGATION
HEADED BY KOSKA WIDELY AND FAVORABLY REPORTED
IN LOCAL PRESS, WHICH DESCRIBED VISIT AS SUCCESSFUL AND
SAID JAPANESE WOULD BE SENDING TEAM OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS
TO STUDY POSSIBILITIES MORE COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT OF MOROCCO. KOSAKA RECEIVED BY KING AND
WAS PRESENTED WITH GRAND CORDON OF ORDER OF ALAOUITES,
AN UNUSUAL DISTINCTION FOR A VISITOR ON SUCH A SHORT STAY.

2. JAPANESE EMBASSY AGREES VISIT QUITE SUCCESSFUL. SAYS
IT NOT SURE WHY KOSAKA RECEIVED DECORATION, BUT THOUGHT
IT MIGHT BE IN EXPECTATION FUTURE FAVORS. ACCORDING EMBASSY,
JAPANESE FOUND COMPLETE COMPREHENSION THEIR POSITION ON
MIDDLE EAST AND ON OIL PRICING POLICIES (THIS IN SPITE
OF STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF FINANCE BENSALEM GUESSOUS
ON RETURNING FROM COMMITTEE OF TWENTY MEETING IN ROME
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TO EFFECT MOROCCO, WHICH REPRESENTED CERTAIN OIL PRODUC-

ING STATES, DEFENDED THEIR PRICING POLICIES.)

3. WITH REGARD ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AN ASPECT OF VISIT WHICH WAS MUCH EMPHASIZED BY PRESS, NOT A GREAT DEAL HAD HAPPENED, ACCORDING EMBASSY. AT PRESENT JAPANESE HAVE VERY MODEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HERE, CONSISTING OF THIRTY YOUNG VOLUNTEERS WHO WORKING IN VARIOUS FIELDS, INCLUDING SILKWORM CULTURE. ALSO IN NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1973 A JAPANESE GEOLOGICAL TEAM MADE A FORTY-DAY SURVEY OF MINERAL POSSIBILITIES IN MIDDLE ATLAS, WITH EMPHASIS ON FINDING COPPER DESPOSITS, AND SIMILAR TEAM MAY COME LATER THIS YEAR. FINALLY, JAPANESE PRIVATE INTERESTS OWN HALF OF TWO FISHING COMPANIES, ONE IN SAFI AND ONE IN CASABLANCA, PROVIDE LIMITED NUMBER OF PERSONNEL TO ASSIST AND TRAIN MOROCCANS IN OPERATING FISHING BOATS. JAPANESE SAY THERE HAD BEEN DISCUSSION LATE LAST YEAR OF POSSIBILITIES EXPANDING THEIR AID PROGRAM, BUT BECAUSE OF DEATH OF ABDELLATIF IMANI, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR PLAN, MOROCCANS HAD NOT MADE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO JAPANESE DURING KOSAKA VISIT. IMANI HAD HAD ALL THE DETAILS IN HIS HEAD. JAPANESE FELT BALL STILL IN MOROCCAN COURT AND WERE WAITING FOR SOME CONCRETE PROPOSALS FROM THEM. IN MEANTIME, AND CONTRARY TO PRESS REPORTS, IT HAD NOT ACTUALLY BEEN DECIDED WHETHER TO SEND A TECHNICAL DELEGATION HERE.

4. ONE CONCRETE RESULT OF VISIT WILL BE MODEST INCREASE IN JAPANESE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, SOMETHING WHICH FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA HAD SUGGESTED WOULD BE APPROPRIATE. FOR MOMENT INCREASE LIMITED TO IKEBANA SHOWS IN RABAT AND CASABLANCA, AND PLANS FOR JUDO EXHIBITION AND JAPANESE FILM WEEK.
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